

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently Amended) A method operative to automatically generate an index for a document, the method comprising:

determining a sub-section delimiter definition including at least one delimiter characteristic, wherein determining a sub-section delimiter comprises a user indicating at least one of a font size, a font style, a text string, a text location description, ~~a predetermined machine readable symbol~~, and a specific point coordinate within the document or wherein determining a sub-section delimiter comprises a user placing a predetermined machine readable symbol representing a demarcation point on a printed version of the document as the sub-section delimiter;

searching the document to find occurrences of items corresponding to the defined sub-section delimiter; and,

generating the index for the document with all found items corresponding to the sub-section delimiter occurrences.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 2 wherein searching the document comprises:

generating an electronic version of the document; and,

searching the electronic version of the document for one of characters and objects corresponding to the defined sub-section delimiter .

5. (Original) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 4 wherein generating an electronic version of the document

comprises:

scanning a printed version of the document to generate scan data;
and,
performing one of optical character recognition functions and document recognition functions on the scan data to generate an electronic version of the document.

6. (Previously Presented) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 2 further comprising:

displaying the created index;
checking that the displayed index is correct; and,
correcting the index.

7. (Previously Presented) A method operative to automatically generate an index for a document, the method comprising:

determining a sub-section delimiter definition including at least one delimiter characteristic, wherein determining a sub-section delimiter definition comprises selecting an exemplary sub-section title, performing one of document recognition and optical character recognition on the selected exemplary sub-section title to determine at least one recognized property, and using the at least one recognized property of the exemplary sub-section title as a sub-section delimiter definition;

searching the document to find occurrences of items corresponding to the defined sub-section delimiter; and,

generating the index for the document with found items corresponding to the sub-section delimiter occurrences.

8. (Previously Presented) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 7 wherein selecting an exemplary sub-section title comprises:

displaying a plurality of document pages on a user interface;
selecting at least one demarcation point on at least one of the plurality of pages ; and,

using the at least one demarcation point as the defined sub-section delimiter.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) A document processor operative to automatically generate an index for a document from occurrences corresponding to a delimiter definition, the document processor comprising:

a document input device operative to provide an electronic version of a document;

a document storage device operative to store the electronic version of the document;

a delimiter searcher operative to search for and record text and text location information regarding the occurrences corresponding to the delimiter definition within the electronic version of the document;

a document divider operative to divide the document into sub-sections based on the recorded information regarding the occurrences corresponding to the delimiter definition

a user interface operative to transfer information between a document processor operator and portions of the document processor; and;

a delimiter designator module operative to communicate with the document processor operator through the user interface in order to generate at least one delimiter designation for the delimiter definition.

11. (Previously Presented) The document processor of claim 10 wherein the delimiter designator is operative to accept an indication of at least one of a font size, a font style, a text string, a text location description, a predefined machine readable symbol, and a specific point coordinate within the document as a delimiter designation.

12. (Previously Presented) The document processor of claim 10 wherein the delimiter designator is operative to display a plurality of document portions on the user interface for the document processor operator to view while determining the at least one delimiter designation.

13. (Original) The document processor of claim 12 wherein the user interface is operative to receive demarcation point designations from the document processor operator and deliver the demarcation point designations to the delimiter designator as delimiter designations.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously Presented) The document processor of claim 10 further comprising a print engine operative to print sub-sections of the document.

16. (Original) The document processor of claim 15, operating in a xerographic environment, wherein the print engine comprises a xerographic printer.

17. (Original) The document processor of claim 15 wherein the print engine comprises an inkjet printer.

18. (Previously Presented) A method for dividing a document into separate sections, the method comprising:

scanning the document to generate scanned document data;

performing recognition functions on the scanned document data to generate a recognized version of the document ;

defining a sub-section delimiter, wherein defining the sub-section delimiter includes at least one of a document processor operator building a sub-section delimiter definition from a list of predetermined potential sub-section delimiter components, a document processor operator entering a sub-section delimiter through keyboard keystrokes, entering a sub-section delimiter by selecting symbols on a displayed portion of the electronic version of the document, and designating at least one demarcation point on at least one displayed portion of the electronic document to create a list of demarcation points to be used as a set of delimiter definitions;

searching the recognized version to find occurrences of items that correspond to the defined sub-section delimiter; and,

using the found items to separate the document into the separate sections.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Previously Presented) A method for dividing a document into separate sections, the method comprising:

scanning the document to generate scanned document data;

performing recognition functions on the scanned document data to generate a recognized version of the document ;

defining a sub-section delimiter, wherein defining the sub-section delimiter comprises marking a paper version of the document with at least one predetermined machine readable demarcation symbol prior to scanning the document;

searching the recognized version to find occurrences of items that correspond to the defined sub-section delimiter; and,

using the found items to separate the document into the separate sections.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the automatically generated index is an automatically generated table of contents of the document, and the items corresponding to the defined sub-section delimiter are chapter titles displayed in an order in which they appear in the document.

22. (Currently Amended) A method operative to automatically generate an index for a document, the method comprising:

determining a sub-section delimiter definition including at least one delimiter characteristic, wherein determining the sub-section delimiter comprises a user indicating at least one of a font ~~size~~and size and a font style;

searching the document to find occurrences of items corresponding to the defined sub-section delimiter; and,

generating the index for the document with found items corresponding to the sub-section delimiter occurrences.

23. (Currently Amended) A method operative to automatically generate an index for a document, the method comprising:

determining a sub-section delimiter definition including at least one delimiter characteristic, wherein determining a sub-section delimiter comprises a user indicating at least one of a font size, a font style, a ~~predetermined machine readable symbol~~, and a specific point coordinate within the document;

searching the document to find occurrences of items corresponding to the defined sub-section delimiter; and,

generating the index for the document with found items corresponding to the sub-section delimiter occurrences.

24. (Previously Presented) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 22 wherein searching the document comprises:

generating an electronic version of the document; and,

searching the electronic version of the document for one of characters and objects corresponding to the defined sub-section delimiter.

25. (Previously Presented) The method operative to automatically generate an index for a document of claim 23 wherein searching the document comprises:

generating an electronic version of the document; and,

searching the electronic version of the document for one of characters and objects corresponding to the defined sub-section delimiter.

26. (Previously Presented) The document processor of claim 10 wherein the delimiter designator is operative to accept an indication of at least one of a font size and a font style as a delimiter designation.

27. (Previously Presented) The document processor of claim 10 wherein the delimiter designator is operative to accept an indication of at least one of a font size, a font style, a predetermined machine readable symbol, and a specific

point coordinate within the document as a delimiter designation.

28. (Currently Amended) A method for dividing a document into separate sections, the method comprising:

scanning the document to generate scanned document data;
performing recognition functions on the scanned document data to generate a recognized version of the document ;

defining a sub-section ~~delimiter~~deliminer, wherein defining the sub-section delimiter comprises at least one of a user building a sub-section delimiter from a list of predetermined potential sub-section delimiter components, performing statistical analysis on recognized characters to select characteristics that are most likely to be associated with sub-section delimiters, a user entering a sub-section delimiter by selecting symbols on a displayed portion of the electronic version of the document, and designating at least one demarcation point on at least one displayed portion of the electronic document to create a list of demarcation points to be used as a set of delimiter definitions;

searching the recognized version to find occurrences of items that correspond to the defined sub-section delimiter; and,

using the found items to separate the document into the separate sections.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)